

Montana Teen Driver Education & Training

Module 1

PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING

Montana Teen Driver Education & Training

Welcome!



Driver Education

Parents/Guardians Meeting

- Course schedule
- Requirements
- Expectations of the teen student and the parents/guardians
- Montana Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) law
 - Requires 50 hours of supervised practice driving including 10 hours at night with an adult
 - Teens need 2 hours of driving practice each week to meet the required 50 hours within 6 months – Learner licenses are valid for one year
 - Limits passengers and restricts night driving with first year license

Building Better Drivers



Driver Education, GDL, and Parent Involvement



What Can You, the Parent, Do?

- Be a role model for safe and smart driving
- Enroll your teen in Driver Education
- Supervise teen driving
- Set family driving rules, limits and consequences
- Know Montana's Graduated Driver License Law
<https://doj.mt.gov/driving/driver-licensing/#newdrivers>

What are the risks facing young teen drivers?

- Inexperience
- Judgment
- Speed
- Distractions
- Fatigue
- Alcohol is involved in about 16% of fatal crashes involving 16- and 17-year-old drivers



These factors cause crashes, but what ***kills***?

Not wearing a seat belt

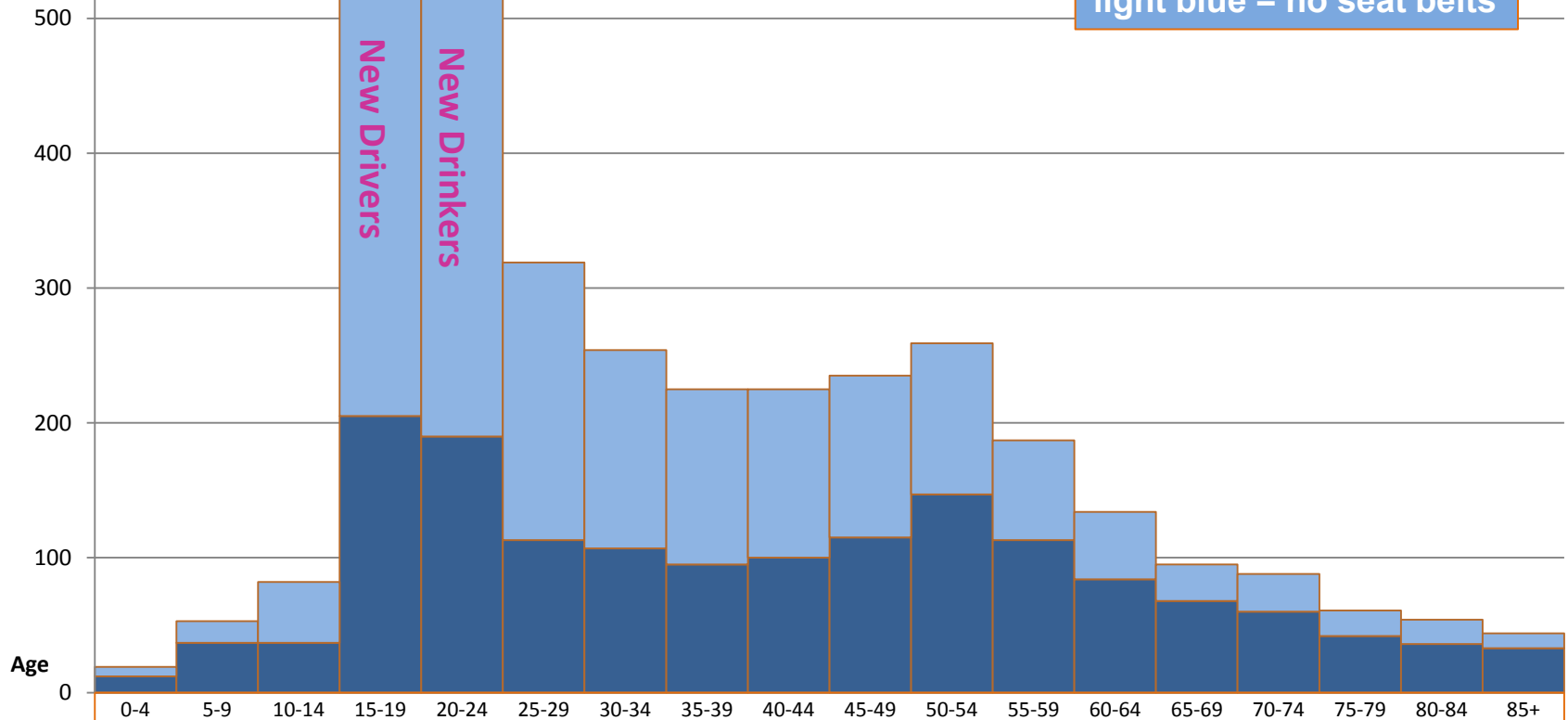
Montana Crash Data

Number of Severely Injured Vehicle Occupants

Fatal & Incapacitating Injuries and Restraint Use by Occupant Age

(2008-2010 Montana Crash Data)

light blue = no seat belts



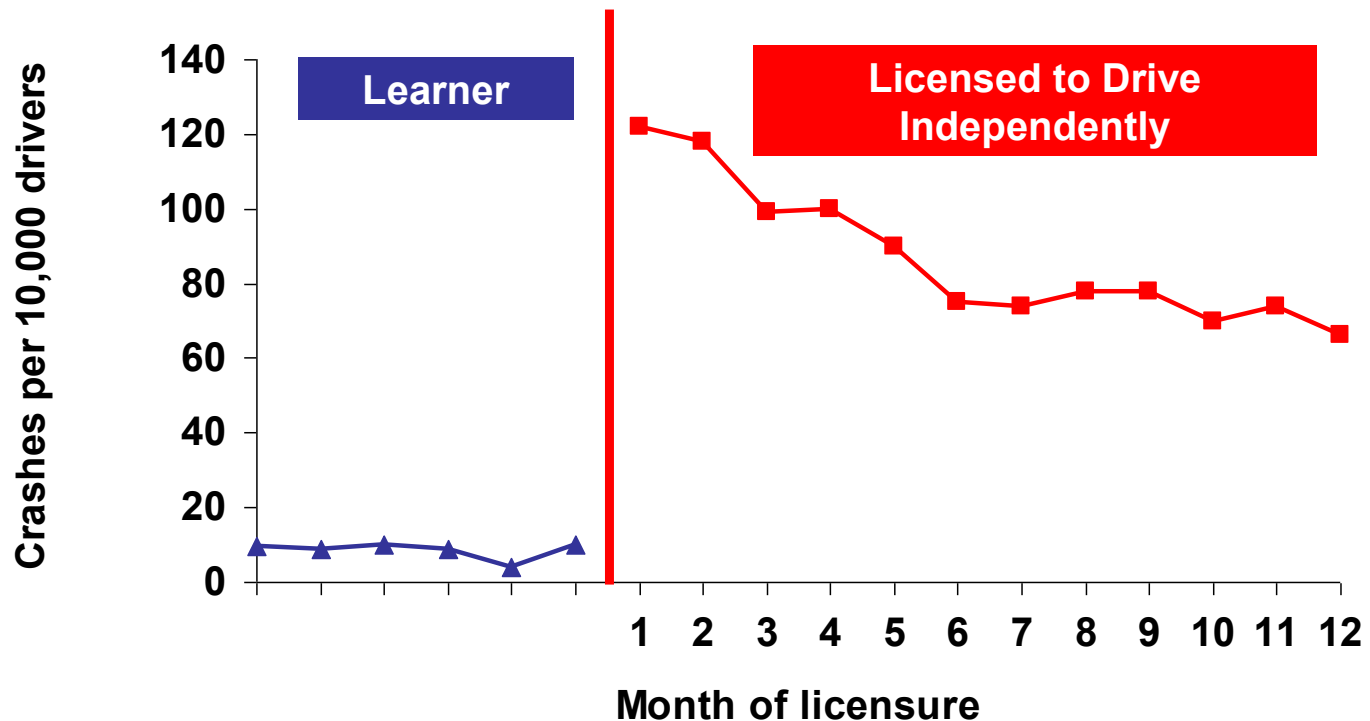
Major causes of vehicle crashes in Montana



Inattentiveness, carelessness and driving speed accounted for more than 50% of Montana crashes over the past 10 years.

Teen drivers are inexperienced

Crash Rate by Licensure Month



Adapted from: Mayhew et al., 2003 - Accident Analysis and Prevention

Montana Teen Crashes

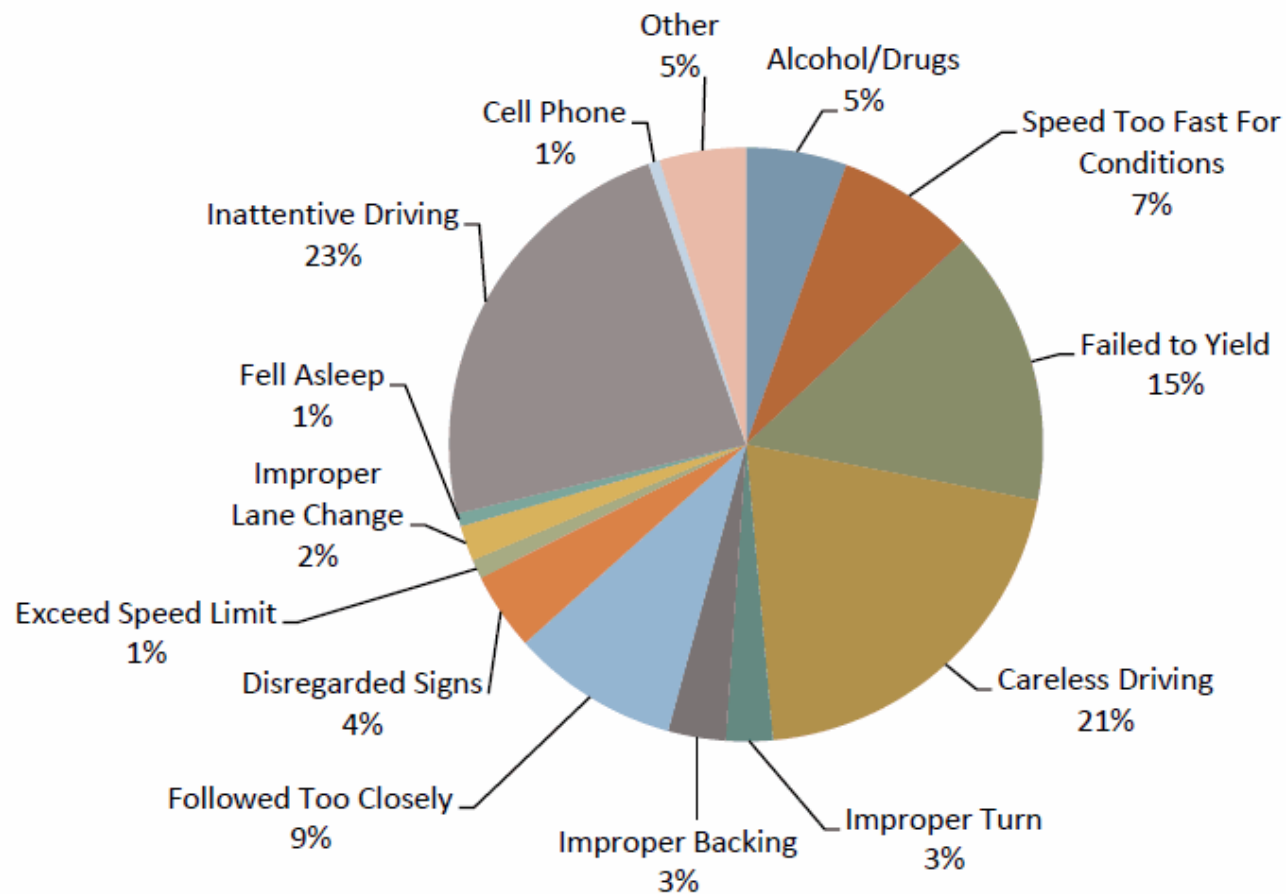
All new drivers—even straight-A students and "good kids"—are more likely than experienced drivers to be involved in a crash



The major causes of teen crashes in Montana:

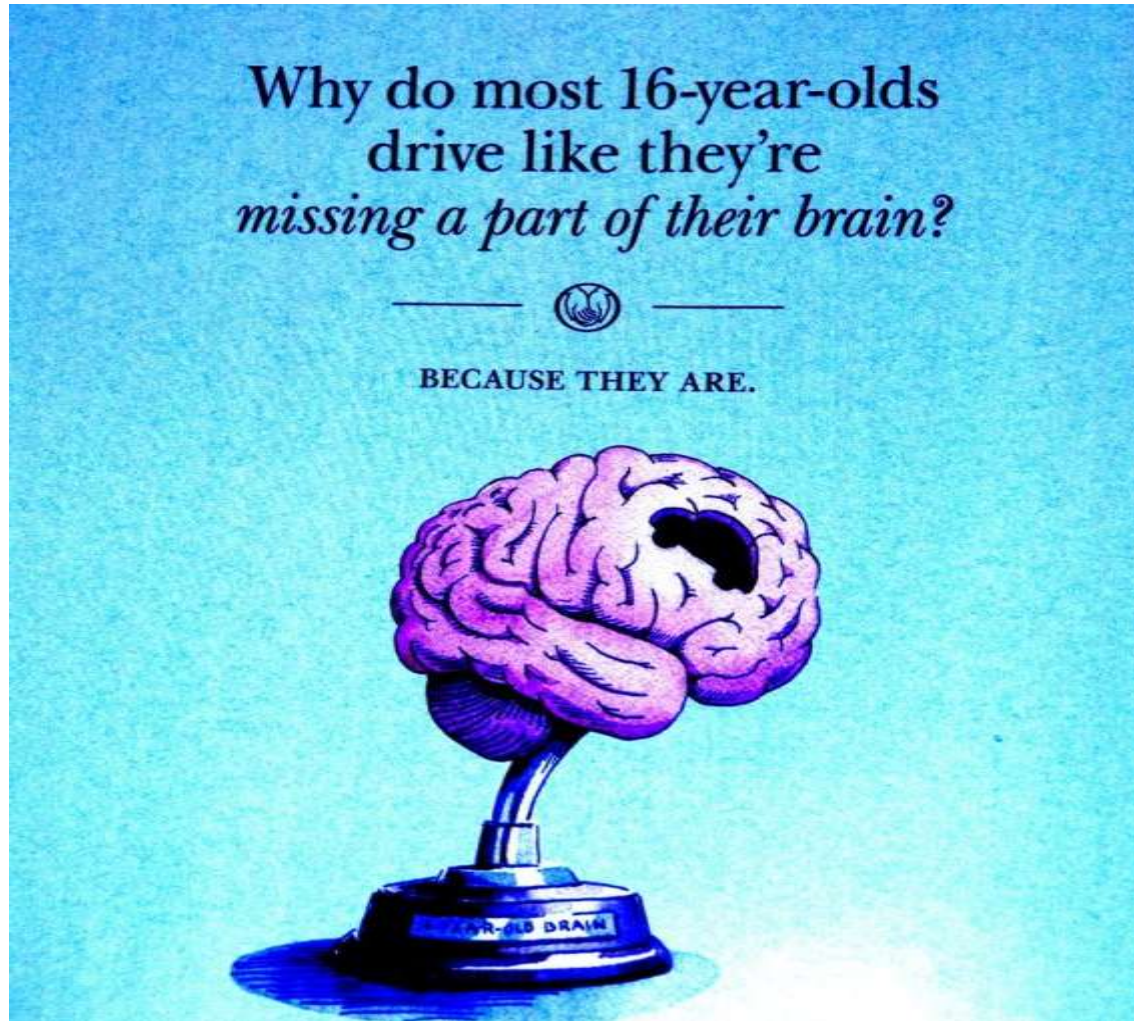
- Speed too fast at curves
- Failure to see Line of Sight – Path of Travel (LOS-POT) far enough in advance
- Rain, loose gravel, sand, snow, ice
- Out-of-balance SUV or pickup truck overturning

Driver's Contributing Circumstances in Crashes (2009 Data)



Source: Montana Department of Transportation – Safety Management System

Teens and Judgment



Four Levels of Performance

Level 1 — Unconsciously Competent:

I don't have to think about what I know and what I can do, but **I do it well**

Level 2 — Consciously Competent:

I am aware of what I know and what I can do and **what I need to do to continue to improve**

Level 3 — Consciously Incompetent:

I am aware of what I don't know and what I can't do and **I am willing to work on getting better!**

Level 4 — Unconsciously Incompetent:

I am unaware of what I don't know and what I can't do

Driving in Montana

Instruction Permits and Learner Licenses



TEP – Traffic Education Permit valid only during approved traffic education (TE) course

Drive only with instructor during Driver Education class.

TELL – Traffic Education Learner License valid for one year

Drive only with TE instructor or licensed parent or legal guardian during and after successful completion of approved TE course.

Instruction Permit / Learner License valid for one year

Drive with licensed parent or legal guardian or licensed adult driver who is authorized by parent.

AGE 14

14 ½

15

16

17

18

PERMITS USED FOR TRAFFIC EDUCATION

TEP Traffic Education Permit	AGE* - enrolled in approved traffic education program *Enrollment age is subject to school policy	DURATION Only during approved traffic education course with traffic education instructor. TEP expires at the end of class	RESTRICTION Drive only with approved traffic education instructor during driver education class
TELL - Traffic Education Learner License	AGE at least 14 ½ and enrolled in or successfully completed approved traffic education course	DURATION Valid for one year May use until eligible for Restricted License	RESTRICTION Drive only with traffic education instructor, licensed parent or legal guardian**

****NOTE: IF PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS WANT THEIR STUDENT TO DRIVE WITH OTHER ADULTS DURING THE GDL PERMIT PHASE, STUDENTS MUST OBTAIN AN INSTRUCTION PERMIT**

PERMIT AVAILABLE AFTER OR WITHOUT TRAFFIC EDUCATION

Instruction Permit (IP)/ Learner License	AGE 15 after successful completion of approved traffic education course; or age 16 without traffic education	DURATION Valid for one year	RESTRICTION Drive only with licensed parent, legal guardian or licensed adult driver who is authorized by parent
---	---	---------------------------------------	--

GDL Restricted License

BEGINS after student has had any combination of TEP, TELL or IP at least **six months** AND while holding the permit(s), the student has completed **50 hours** of supervised driving practice – 10 hours must be at night

DURATION One Year

GDL RESTRICTIONS -

- First 6 months only one unrelated passenger
- Second 6 months up to 3 unrelated passengers
- Each occupant must wear a seat belt
- No driving between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

Exceptions to night driving restrictions include emergencies, travel to and from school, church, or work and farm related activities

Full Privilege Driver License

BEGINS after student has completed one-year GDL restricted license period or if the student turns 18 before the one-year restricted license period is complete, when the student turns 18

DURATION
EXPIRES ON 21ST BIRTHDAY

REMEMBER

Drive Safely

Follow the rules of the road

Everyone wears a seat belt

Drive sober



Denise Juneau, Superintendent • Montana Office of Public Instruction • www.opi.mt.gov



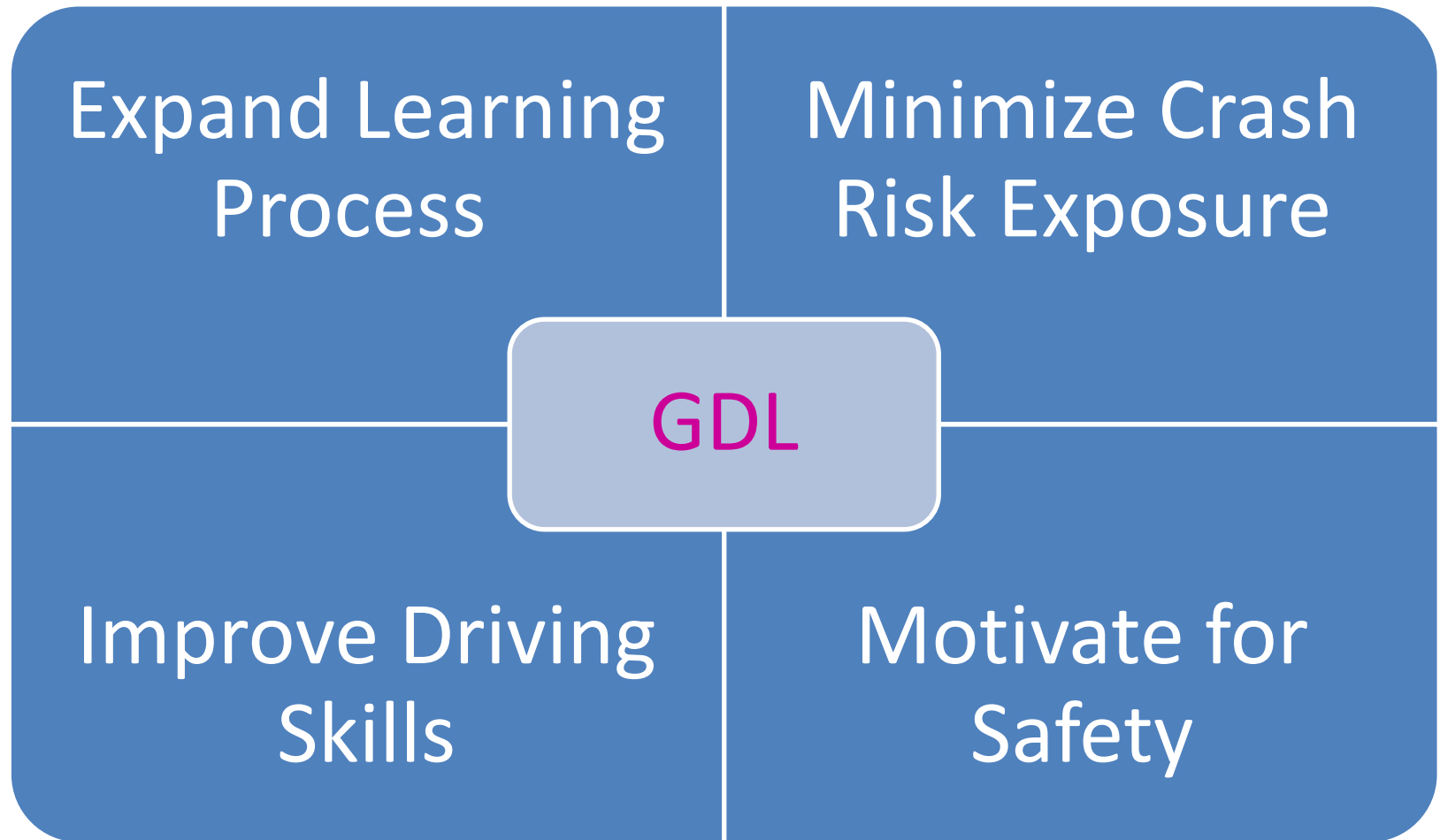
Department of Justice - Motor Vehicle Division - www.doj.mt.gov/driving



Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

Graduated Driver License

Four Key Objectives



GDL Step One: 50 hours • 10 at night

The Starting Line is knowing
the Rules of the Road ...
then it's time to practice



Driving experience develops competence

GDL Step One: Learner License

Seatbelts required –
for everyone – all the time

Requires **50 hours** of supervised
practice driving including **10 hours**
at night with an adult

Teens need 2 hours of driving
practice each week to meet the
required 50 hours within
6 months

Learner licenses are valid for **one**
year

Graduated Driver License

Step 1 – Instruction Permit/Learner License

Requires 6 months and 50 hours of supervised driving
practice with parent/guardian - 10 hours must be at night
Seatbelts required

Step 2 – GDL Restricted License

Limits teen passengers and night time driving
Seatbelts required

Step 3 – Full Privilege Driver License

After one year of GDL restrictions or age 18

What is the Parent Role in Teen Driving?

1. Enroll your teen in Montana Driver Education
2. Know Montana's GDL laws
3. Supervise teen driving
4. Set family driving rules and limits
5. Impose consequences for violations

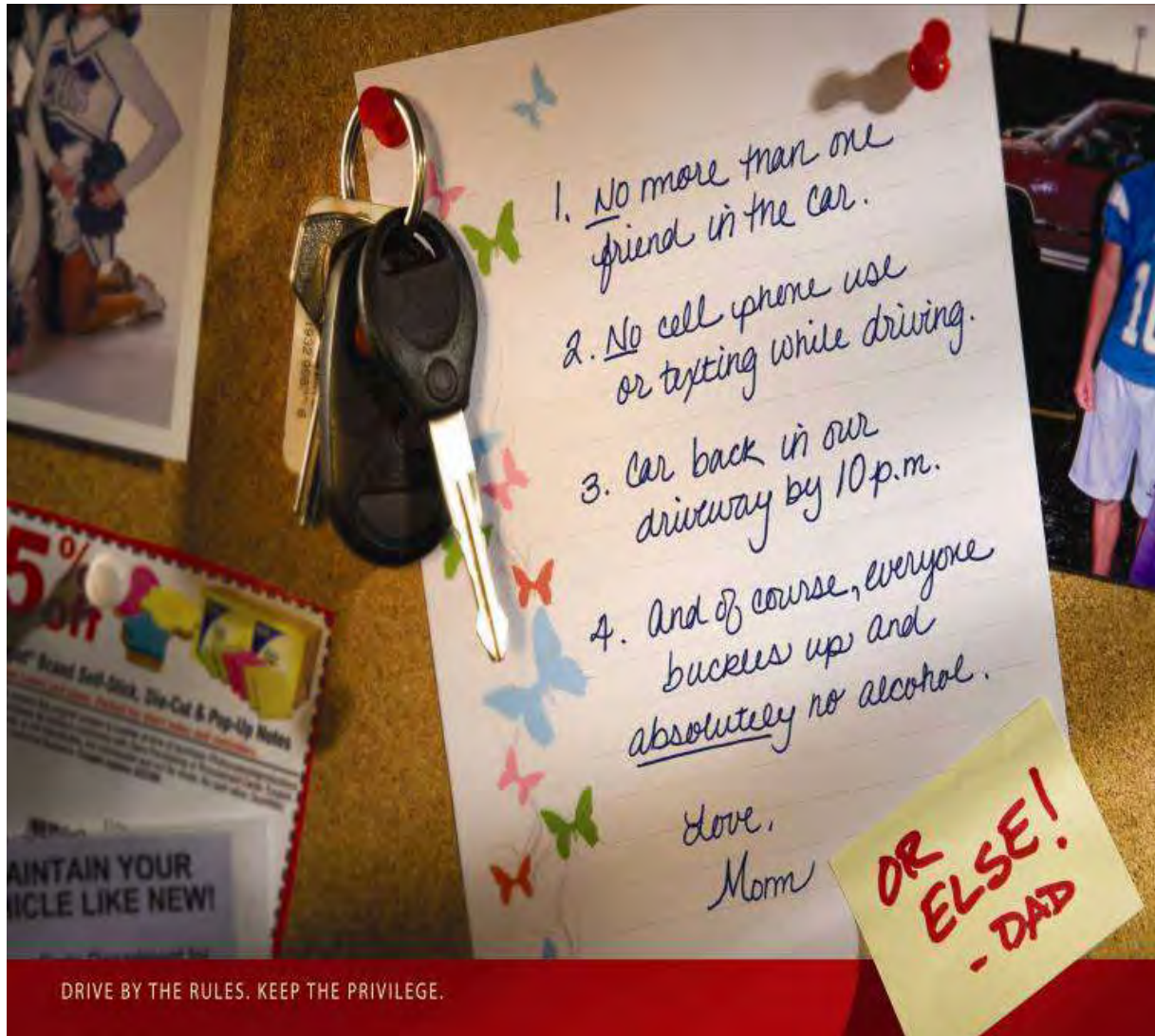


Montana Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, Superintendent



Practice driving in varied road and stormy weather conditions as teen's driving skills improve

GDL First-Year Restricted License



Montana GDL Restrictions

Seatbelts required –
for everyone – all the time

Passengers –

First 6 months – only one

Second 6 months – up to 3

Best Practices:

No passengers

Night restrictions

11:00 PM – 5:00 AM

Best Practices:

The real risk is darkness

**Parents are the Key to
Teen Driver Safety**

Graduated Driver License

Step 1 – Instruction Permit/Learner License

Requires 6 months and 50 hours of supervised driving practice with parent/guardian - 10 hours must be at night
Seatbelts required

Step 2 – GDL Restricted License

Limits teen passengers and night time driving
Seatbelts required

Step 3 – Full Privilege Driver License

After one year of GDL restrictions or age 18

What is the Parent Role in Teen Driving?

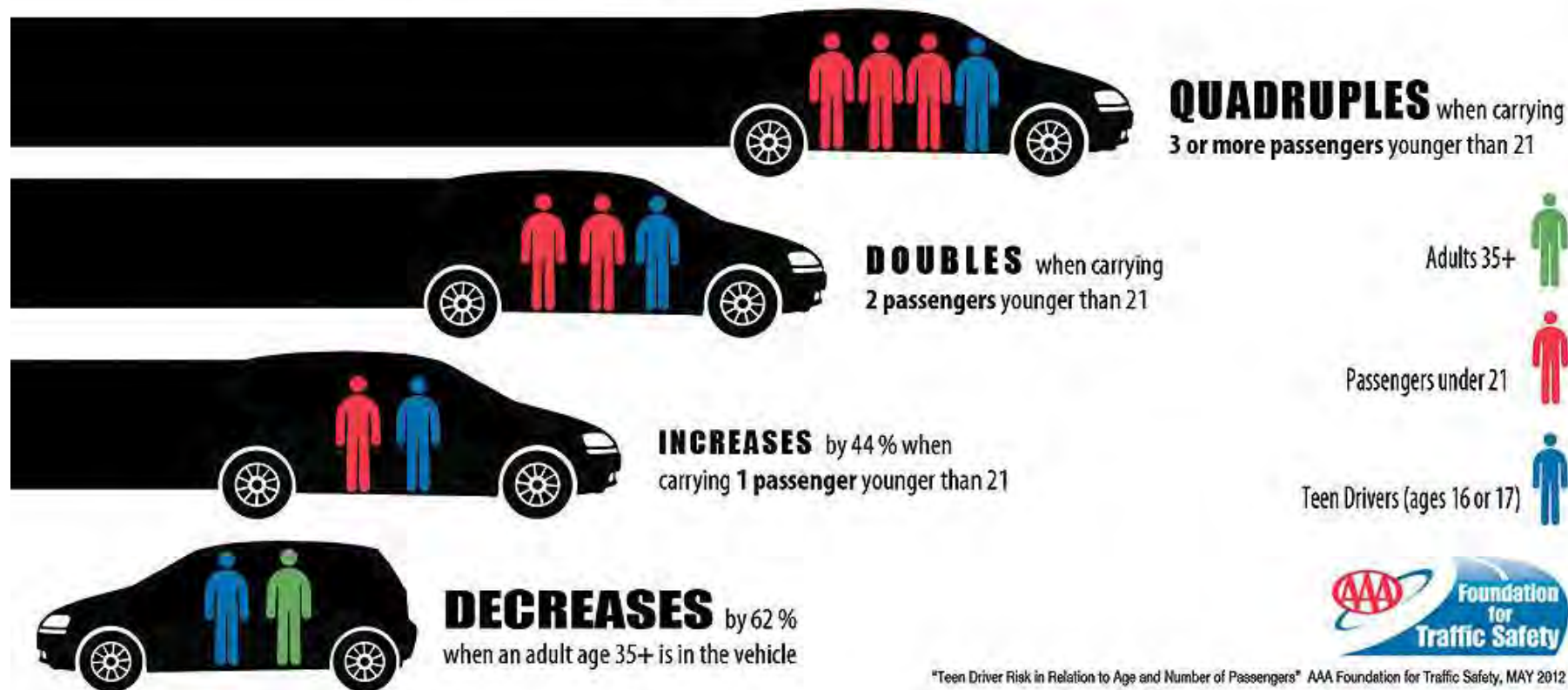
1. Enroll your teen in Montana Driver Education
2. Know Montana's GDL laws
3. Supervise teen driving
4. Set family driving rules and limits
5. Impose consequences for violations



Teen Drivers Risk Death with Young Passengers

A 16- or 17-year-old driver's **RISK OF BEING KILLED IN A CRASH** increases when there are young passengers in the vehicle.

Compared to driving without any passengers, **THE RISK:**



"Teen Driver Risk in Relation to Age and Number of Passengers" AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, MAY 2012



Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

opi.mt.gov



Highest lifetime crash risk is in the first year of independent driving.

Lowest risk is when driving with parent/guardian.

CAN I BORROW THE CAR?

*The conversation starter that might keep
a teen from crashing*

Recommend that teens ask for the
keys at least for the first 6-12
months

Parent's opportunity to:

- review house rules
- help with trip decisions
- provide support on peer pressure



Children's Hospital of Philadelphia <http://www.teendriverssource.org/>
2011

CAN I RIDE WITH A FRIEND?



IS YOUR FRIEND A SAFE DRIVER?

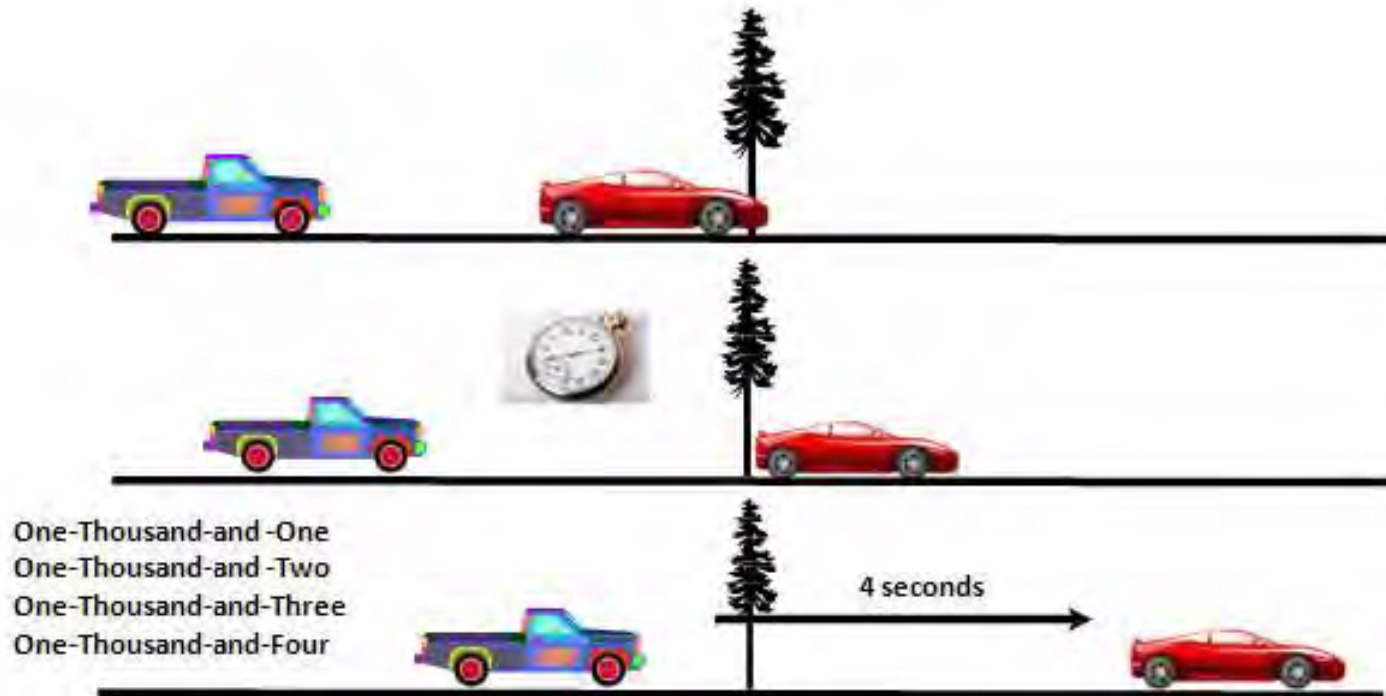


Inexperienced teen drivers increase risk for passengers –
54% of 14-year-old passenger deaths happen when a teen is driving

Steering for Balance and Control

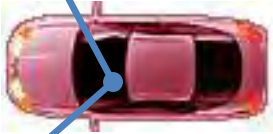


Minimum Following Distance



Reference Points

Front Limitation



Knowing where the front end of your vehicle is when you are:

- AT INTERSECTIONS
- IN A STOPPING POSITION
- PERPENDICULAR PARKING



LOS-POT

Line of Sight - Path of Travel



Targeting

Find • Solve • Control



Distractions



1. **Visual** - Eyes off the road
2. **Cognitive** - Mind off the road
3. **Manual** - Hands off the steering wheel

Nearly 8 out of 10 crashes happen within 3 seconds of a driver becoming distracted.

Distractions



- 50.2% of Montana high school students reported texting and 53.3% used a cell phone while driving during the past 30 days (YRBS 2011)
- Text messaging creates a crash risk 23 times worse than driving while not distracted. (VTTI)
- Sending or receiving a text takes a driver's eyes from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds -- the equivalent of driving blind for the length of an entire football field at 55 mph. (VTTI)


<http://www.distraction.gov/>

Traffic Education Program Policies

- Class schedule
- Attendance
- Behind-the-Wheel (BTW) scheduling
- Driving To Traffic Education
- Classroom make-up sessions
- BTW make-up sessions
- Tardiness
- Drive groups
- Successful Completion
- Other

Montana KEYS

Parent Teen Homework



Parent-Teen Homework Assignments to Increase Driver Safety

ASSIGNMENT SHEET FOR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT #1

Safety Precautions & Safety Equipment

Date: _____ **Student:** _____ **Parent:** _____

Phone number: _____

Instructions

Together, parent & teen need to: (1) read over the information provided in the information sheet for Homework Assignment #1, (2) fully & thoroughly perform the parent-teen activities listed in this Assignment Sheet, & (3) complete & turn in this Assignment Sheet to your driver education class.

- Materials needed:** Parent, teen, this assignment sheet, pencil or pen, vehicle, & something to use as a blindfold.
- Time needed:** Each activity can take 10-30 minutes & can be done separately, at different times.
- Directions:** After completing each activity, check (5) the box to show that it was completed & then parent rates teen's performance as "good," "fair," or "needs improvement." No matter what the rating, please list comments about teen's performance to help us keep track.
- Grading:** Grading of Assignment #1 is based ONLY on completing the activities, not on the actual ratings for teen progress. Thus, a "needs improvement" rating will not lower your teen's grade. This information is important for tracking student progress & providing you with feedback for ways to improve.

#	Activities for Safety Precautions (Use information from Box A on the information sheet)	Rating (5)			
		NI = needs improvement			
		Good	Fair	NI	Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vehicle-Related Activity: Vehicle Tasks. To assess knowledge, teen (1) tells parent how to go about doing the following tasks while (2) physically locating & taking out the necessary equipment & materials for the tasks, & (3) performing the tasks. Parent checks accuracy using information from Box A on the information sheet or the driver's manual.				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Change a tire (something to block tires with, jack, lug nut wrench, spare tire, lug nuts). You can opt to simulate the experience by getting out all of the needed equipment & "pretending" to do it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jump start the engine (jumper cables, vehicle battery, positive/negative battery terminals, & position of positive/negative clamps on good/bad batteries). Simulate the experience by getting out all of the needed equipment & "pretending" to do it BUT DO NOT HOOK UP CABLES TO VEHICLE BATTERIES.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the oil (guidelines in the owner's manual for checking the oil, dipstick, oil cap, dipstick reading)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check other fluids (guidelines in the owner's manual for checking the steering, brake, transmission, & windshield fluids)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to an air station & put air in the tires (air pressure guidelines in the owner's manual, tire pressure gauge, air stems)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to a fuel station & put the correct fuel in the vehicle (fuel tank cover, fuel tank cap)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



Parent-Teen Activity #4: Driving Pictures

Driving Conditions

1. time of day

2. early in morning

3. bright sunshine

4. late in afternoon

5. nighttime

Weather conditions

6. rain

7. snow/ice on road

8. black ice

Road conditions

9. intersection

10. full street

11. curve in road

12. no street lights

13. no painted lane lines

14. overpasses or bridges

15. unstable or unforgiving shoulders

16. green droppings on side of road

Traffic conditions

17. lagging

18. heavy traffic

19. concerning traffic

20. pedestrians

21. bicyclists

22. animals

Obstructions to sight

23. windows fogged

24. scenery

25. trees on side of road

26. buildings on side of road

27. parked vehicles

28. construction area

29. reduced visibility for other reasons



Evaluations: For each picture: (1) list the 2 most problem conditions & then the best; (2) speed control option & (3) lane position option

Condition 1: few sidewalks

Condition 2: constant traffic, no room to pull in or out

Condition 3: parked cars

Speed control option: 30 mph

Lane control option: 1

Photo courtesy of AAA TrafficSafe for Youth, Idaho

Condition 1: _____

Condition 2: _____

Condition 3: _____

Speed control option: _____

Lane control option: _____

Photo courtesy of AAA TrafficSafe for Youth, Idaho

Condition 1: _____

Condition 2: _____

Condition 3: _____

Speed control option: _____

Lane control option: _____

Photo courtesy of AAA TrafficSafe for Youth, Idaho

Each picture represents the perspective and quality of the driver's view.

Montana KEYS Skill Assessment and Parent Teen Agreement



Montana KEYS

Keep Track of Driver Progress

Directions: Rate teen driver safety knowledge, skill, performance, & adaptability to date for the following safe driving behaviors. Repeat this assessment every 2 months to track teen safe driving progress. Use the following rating system:

0 = not enough information to judge at this time ~ 1 = needs improvement ~ 2 = fair ~ 3 = good

SAFE DRIVING BEHAVIORS	Date	Knowledge Knows the information related to how & why	Skill Has the ability to use knowledge & maneuver the vehicle	Performance Safely navigates roadways & interacts with roadway users	Adaptability Performs well in various situations & under various conditions
Prepared: Adjusts seat, steering wheel, & mirrors, & wears seat belt					
Positive attitude: Is a courteous driver					
Follows laws: Always follows traffic laws & traffic control devices. Wears seat belt, stays within the speed limit, determines right-of-way, never drives after using alcohol or other drugs, etc.					
Starts & stops: "Smooth" starts & stops					
Steering control: "Smooth" steering					
Vision control: Constantly searches driving environment (mirrors & head turning) looking for signs, vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists, etc.					
Blindspots: Checks "blindspots" by looking over the shoulder before turning or changing lanes					
Speed control: Stays within the speed limit & chooses a speed that is appropriate for traffic conditions, weather conditions, road conditions, etc.					
Attention: Constantly monitors lane position, speed control, & mirrors					
Communication: Uses turn signals when turning or changing lanes					
Intersections: Looks ahead to intersections to determine what is there even before getting there					
Right-of-Way: Watches for right-of-way situations & determines appropriate rules					
Turns: Signals, searches, & keeps speeds fluid through the turn. The left turn is a wide, sweeping turn at a fairly regular speed. The right turn is a tighter, slower turn.					
Gap Selection: Chooses an appropriate "gap" when entering traffic or entering or turning onto another street					
Accelerates/Merges: Smoothly gets up or down to the appropriate speed while maintaining lane position. On highways, uses the on/off ramps to help build or decrease speed.					
Following Distance: Keeps a safe following distance based on speed, weather conditions, traffic conditions, road conditions, etc.					
Night Driving: Slows & constantly searches the driving environment when driving under low light or dark conditions					
Wet conditions: Slows & constantly searches the driving environment when driving under wet or icy conditions					

* Contact your teen's driver education instructor if you would like more of these handouts to assess teen driving

Montana KEYS

Parent-Teen Agreement for Safe Driving Expectations

Remember, safe driving means being able to safely navigate roadways & safely interact with other roadway users. These expectations are meant to increase EVERYONE'S SAFETY!

SAFE DRIVING TOPICS	Discussion Review & understand the information related to safety	Rules Expectations for safely navigating roadway & interacting with other roadway users	Common violations	Example Violations & Consequences For consequences determined together by parent & teen
Traffic Laws	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of obeying all traffic laws (including seat belt use & driving under posted speed limits) & traffic control devices (signals, signs, & lines) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obey all traffic laws Obey all traffic control devices (signals, signs, & lines) Wear seat belt as driver or passenger Have all passengers wear seat belts Drive within posted speed limits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teen did not make all passengers wear seat belts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss driving privileges for (write in amount of time) Other (write in what & amount of time)
Alcohol & Other Drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The risks related to using alcohol or other drugs & driving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Never use alcohol or other drugs & drive Never ride with a driver who is driving after alcohol or drug use Call home if you cannot get home safely (parent will arrange a safe ride home) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teen rode with someone who had been drinking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss driving privileges for (write in amount of time) Other (write in what & amount of time)
Courteous Driving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of being a courteous driver, including the need to communicate with other road users & to have a patient driving attitude 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use signal lights, brake lights, & turn position for communication Have a patient driving attitude Never show aggressive driving or road rage Never respond to other's aggressive driving or road rage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teen got a ticket for aggressive driving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss driving privileges for (write in amount of time) Other (write in what & amount of time)
Vision, Balance, & Judgment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of vision, balance, & judgment for safe driving The dangers of driving at high speeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Never put yourself or others at risk by driving too fast for conditions Teens should have extensive supervised practice on high-speed roads before they are allowed to drive at high speeds on their own Once licensed, teens should have extensive independent experience driving in low-risk conditions—at lower speeds—before they drive at high speeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teen got a ticket for speeding 15mph over the speed limit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss driving privileges for (write in amount of time) Other (write in what & amount of time)
Driving Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The risks related to driving in adverse weather conditions The risks related to driving in dawn/dusk/night conditions The risks related to driving on various road & traffic conditions The risks related to driving with teen passengers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Never put yourself or others at risk by making unnecessary trips to adverse weather Pay even more attention while driving at dawn/dusk/night and/or with teen passengers Teens should have extensive supervised practice in adverse weather, dusk/dawn/nighttime, road, & traffic conditions before they are allowed to drive on their own Once licensed, teens should have extensive independent experience driving in low-risk conditions—fair weather conditions, daylight driving, NO PASSENGERS, & fair road & traffic conditions—before they drive under adverse driving conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teen made an unnecessary trip under unsafe circumstances (adverse weather, road, or traffic conditions) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss driving privileges for (write in amount of time) Other (write in what & amount of time)
Unsafe Driving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The risks related to unsafe driving, including risky driving, distracted driving, drowsy driving, & driving when angry, upset, or overly tired 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Never take unnecessary risks while driving Never perform risky driving behaviors Reduce distractions while driving from passengers, radio/CDS, cell phone, eating, etc. Never drive when angry, upset, or overly tired 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teen drove while talking or texting on the cell phone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss driving privileges for (write in amount of time) Other (write in what & amount of time)

We understand & agree to abide by & enforce these expectations for safe driving. Parent Initials: _____ **Teen Initials:** _____ **Date:** _____

GDL Driving Practice Log

- GDL information
- Techniques for guiding teen driver's practice period
- Log to track practice time
- Parent/Teen Contract
- Bring to Driver Examiner, they will ask for it.



Getting Your Driver License



Check to see if the driver exam station requires appointments.

<https://doj.mt.gov/driving/appointment-scheduling>

Bring:

- ☐ CERTIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE (not a copy)
- ☐ SOCIAL SECURITY CARD (not a copy)
- ☐ Cancelled mail showing your name and mailing address (can't be a post office box)
- ☐ Parent/legal guardian to sign consent
- ☐ Driving practice log

Driver License Exam Stations require TWO forms of identification.
The list of additional documents which are accepted ONLY at Driver Exam Stations can be found at www.doj.mt.gov/driving

You've invested time and caring
to grow them well
and keep them healthy and safe.



Your time and caring are needed now
more than ever.